

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KROHN ET AL

Atty. Ref.: **36-1557**

Serial No. **Unknown**

Group:

National Phase of: **PCT/GB00/04074**

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Examiner:

For: **INFORMATION ACCESS**

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April 4, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title insert the following:

-- This application is the US national phase of international application PCT/GB00/04074 filed October 29, 2000 which designated the U.S. --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

3. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said analysis means are arranged to identify a recorded search criterion having, for each member of a first group comprising one or more sets of information selected by a user from those sets referenced in said store, a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold.

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4. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said analysis means are further arranged to receive a search criterion from said user interface, to identify a second group comprising one or more sets of information referenced in said store for which said received search criterion has a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold, and to identify one or more further recorded search criteria having, in respect of each member of said second group, a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold.

5. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said search criteria include words or word phrases and wherein said monitoring means are operable to record words from said one or more search criteria in a stemmed form.

6. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said analysis means include grouping means to identify one or more information categories represented by sets of information referenced in said store, to associate one or more of said referenced sets of information representative of the same information category, and wherein said analysis means are arranged to identify those recorded search criteria having, for each of said associated sets of information, a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold.

9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein, at step (ii), said indication comprises accessing a set of information identified in the response from the retrieval tool.

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REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Larry S. Nixon

Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:Imy

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

3. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1 [or Claim 2], wherein said analysis means are arranged to identify a recorded search criterion having, for each member of a first group comprising one or more sets of information selected by a user from those sets referenced in said store, a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold.

4. (Amended) An apparatus according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein said analysis means are further arranged to receive a search criterion from said user interface, to identify a second group comprising one or more sets of information referenced in said store for which said received search criterion has a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold, and to identify one or more further recorded search criteria having, in respect of each member of said second group, a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold.

5. (Amended) An apparatus according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein said search criteria include words or word phrases and wherein said monitoring means are operable to record words from said one or more search criteria in a stemmed form.

6. (Amended) An apparatus according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein said analysis means include grouping means to identify one or more information categories represented by sets of information referenced in said store, to associate one or more of said referenced sets of information representative of the same information category, and wherein said analysis means are arranged to identify those

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recorded search criteria having, for each of said associated sets of information, a weighting in excess of said predetermined threshold.

9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7 [or Claim 8], wherein, at step (ii), said indication comprises accessing a set of information identified in the response from the retrieval tool.